## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 HEW-02 AID-05 NSF-01 OIC-02

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 RSC-01 L-02 SP-02

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DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS TO DHEW/OIH

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: AORG WHO

SUBJ: WHO: 55TH EXBD SUMMARY

- 1. SUMMARY. 55TH EXBD CONCLUDED ITS SESSION 7:30 PM JAN 31. SESSION WAS ON WHOLE PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS-LIKE WITH VERY HEAVY AGENDA REQUIRING FULL WORKING DAYS, INCLUDING SATURDAY AND ONE EVENING SESSION.
- 2. MAIN THEME WAS VIRTUAL UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR DIRGEN
  MAHLER AND NEW ORIENTATION HE IS IMPARTING TO ORGANIZATION,
  INCLUDING NEED FOR ECONOMICS AND POSSIBLE PROGRAM
  CUTS. ALL MEMBERS SUPPORTED 1976-77 PROGRAM AND ONLY
  SOVIETS, POLES AND HUNGARIANS VOTED AGAINST 76 BUDGET
  (U.S. \$131,855,000). DESPITE ATTITUDE OF FRUGALITY
  ON BUDGET LEVEL, SOVIETS SUCCESSFULLY LED FIGHT AGAINST
  DIRGEN'S PROPOSALS, WHICH U.S. SUPPORTED, TO CUT BACK ON
  VERBATIMGJECORD OF WHA PLENARY, TO CUT BACK NUMBER OF
  DELEGATES AND TO REDUCE TO ECONOMY CLASS TRAVEL TO WHA
  AND EXBD PAID BY WHO. IN LATTER EFFORT, SOVIETS WERE SUPPORTED BY
  SEVERAL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHILE FRANCE AND UK ABSTAINED.
- 3. WE WERE SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING RESOLUTION PASSED ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SCHISTOSOMIASIS AND THERE WAS WIDE SUPPORT FOR WHO'S

NEW PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH ON PARASITIC DISEASES IN AFRICA. THE BOARD EXPRESSED RENEWED CONCERN ABOUT THE DETERIORATING EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD RE MALARIA AND URGED RENEWED EFFORTS BY GOVERNMENTS AND THE WHO. AN AD HOC COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED TO MONITOR THE MALARIA SITUATION FOR THE BOARD.

- 4. SIMILARLY, AN AD HOC COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE WHICH BOARD VIEWED AS HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR ORGANIZATION. THESE TWO COMMITTEES HOW PLACE BOARD IN A POSITION OF PROVIDING MORE CONTINUOUS REVIEW OF ORGANIZATION'S PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAM.
- 5. IN OTHER ACTIONS BOARD RECOMMENDED RESTORATION OF FULL RIGHTS OF PORTUGAL IN ORGANIZATON; RECOMMENDED TO WHA THAT WHO PAY COSTS OF TRAVEL OF LIBERATION GROUP RESPRESENTATIVES TO REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS (U.S. ALONE IN OPPOSING); URGED ALL NGO'S IN RELATIONSHIP WITH WHO EXPEL FORTHWITH BODIES OR INDIVIDUALS ASSOCIATED WITH CHIANG KAI-SHEK (AGAIN U.S. WAS ALONE IN OPPOSING); DEFERRED A DECISION ON THE CONTRUCTION OF A PERMANENT EXTENSION TO THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING BUT AUTHORIZED CONTRIBUTION OF NEW TEMPORARY BUILDING TO BE FINANCED FROM REAL ESTATE FUND.
- 6. PRC ANNOUNCED THAT IT WAS WITHHOLDING PORTION OF ITS 1974 CONTRIBUTION, WHICH REPRESENTED THEIR SHARE OF WHO ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF (LON NOL CLIQUE, SAIGON AUTHORITIES AND ZIONISTS".
- 7. COMMENT. IT IS CLEAR FROM EXBD'S REVIEW OF PROGRAM AND OTHR DOCUMENTATION THAT DIRGEN MAHLER MOVING AGGRESSIVELY TO SHAPE ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVITIES IN DIRECTIONS WE HAVE LONG ADVOCATED, INCLUDING WHO COORDINATION ROLE. PRESSURES FROM INFLATION, MONETARY READJUSTMENTS AND MINIMUM BUDGET INCREASES NECESSITATING HARD LOOK AT EXBD'S PROGRAMS CAN PERMIT MAHLER TO ACCELERATE RAPID PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN DESIRED DIRECTION. ON THE WHOLE, BOARD GAVE DIRGEN MANDATE TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION HE HAS INDICATED. DALE

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